

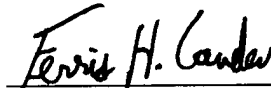
REMARKS

Applicants herein elect, without traverse, Group II (claims 23-28) for prosecution on the merits. Claims 1-22 and 29-40 are withdrawn from consideration. It is understood that claims 1-22 and 29-40, drawn to the non-elected inventions (Groups I and III), will remain pending, albeit withdrawn from consideration on the merits at this time. Applicants retain the right to present the non-elected claims, 1-22 and 29-40, in a divisional application.

CONCLUSION

Now that Applicants have fully responded to the Office Action mailed on January 30, 2006, an examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Ferris H. Lander
Registration # 43,377

McHale & Slavin, P.A.
2855 PGA Boulevard
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
(561) 625-6575 (Voice)
(561) 625-6572 (Fax)

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